AUGUST, MDCCCLI.

THE ZOOLOGIST:

A

POPULAR MONTHLY MAGAZINE

OF

NATURAL HISTORY,

AND

JOURNAL FOR RECORDING FACTS & ANECDOTES

RELATING TO

QUADRUPEDS, BIRDS, REPTILES, FISHES, ANNELIDES,

INSECTS, WORMS, ZOOPHYTES, &c.

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MIGRATIONS, NESTS AND YOUNG.

No. CIV.

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E. NEWMAN, 9, DEVONSHIRE STREET

Query respecting Cramp in Birds.—I should feel greatly obliged to any ornithologist for information as to the best method of treating birds when suffering from cramp &c. I have just lost two birds, viz., a sparrow-hawk and a starling; the former, a female, all but perfectly fledged, died in the night of Friday last, having been ill for more than a week. She set her legs forwards instead of keeping them under her, and although unable to stand, could clutch very tightly with her claws: she had gradually less and less desire for food, and the last I gave her, on Thursday evening, never passed the gorge. The starling, a young male bird of last May, had just changed two or three feathers in each wing, in his tail, and on each side of the breast. Yesterday (Sunday) morning, when bringing him out from the dark corner which he occupied at night, I spoke to him and opened the cage door; he answered, and attempted to jump down from his perch, but hung by his claws. On taking him out immediately I gave him some water, which revived him; I then took him to a fire, and in a minute or two he sat upon my finger. I then set him down and gave him some meat, he appeared better and began to hop about on one leg before the fire, but soon grew stiff again and died within half an hour from the first. Was this cramp, or a fit, or what? — *T. S. Carte; Sidney College, Cambridge, July* 21, 1851.

Inquiry respecting a Parasite. — A few days since I observed a fly taking short flights, rather lazily, and on its legs appeared something sticking. I caught it in my hand and threw it into some hot water which I happened to have by me at the time: on removing it to some blotting-paper, I discovered the little crab-like creatures of which I send you a sketch. I have never observed the circumstance before, and thought is worth communicating.—*Chas. Muskett; Norwich, July* 17, 1851.

[The drawing represents a species of the genus Chelifer, but I am not able to say which. Four species, C. Hermanni, C. Latreillii, C. Geoffroyi, and C. fasciatus, are found, sometimes in very large numbers, under the bark of trees, and also attached to the bodies of Diptera. See Leach's 'Zoological Miscellany,' iii. 49 *et seq.*— *E. Newman.*]

Mr. Stephens's Catalogue of Lepidoptera.—In reply to the query on the wrapper of the July 'Zoologist,' I beg to make the following observations. M. Guenée says— "*why not adopt* the whole of the names," &c.? and subsequently talks of the "*deluge of names*" introduced by me from Hübner. Having disposed of the first point, I call his attention (Zool. 3163) to the *general fact* that "*one* of my objects," &c. You, now assuming a *special case, i. e.*, the 'Verzeichniss,' ask, "whether the names in question are proposed for adoption, or only ascertained?" The context, a few lines above your quotation, appears to me a sufficient reply: however, to prevent further trouble, I here state that the names *adopted* are printed in Roman capitals under each species, and are introduced consecutively in pages 313 to 324 of the Catalogue itself.

P.S.—In my remarks I omitted to notice that Guenée's assertion, "these tribes have already names universally adopted," &c., is scarcely correct, they had only *synonymous* and not *distinctive* ones previously to Hübner's. I now take leave of the subject.—*J. F. Stephens.*

[I feel that an apology is due to Mr. Stephens, inasmuch as I must plead guilty of "assuming a special case, *i. e.*, the 'Verzeichniss." I acknowledge that I read the observations of Messrs. Doubleday and Guenée as referring especially and emphatically to the 'Verzeichniss;' and I also acknowledge that I read Mr. Stephens' reply as referring to that work; and, further, that my own remark and query had especial reference to that work, not in a spirit of unfairness, but because I had fallen into the mistake of really believing the 'Verzeichniss' to be especially and emphatically the work under discussion. I now regret having written anything on the subject. — *Edward Newman.*]

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The undermentioned Books have been received for Review:—

'The Ethnology of the British Colonies, by Dr. Latham. Van Voorst. 1851.' 'Delineations of the Ox Tribe: or the Natural History of Bulls, Bisons and Buffaloes, by George Vasey. Biggs. 1851.' 'Fly-fishing in Salt and Fresh Water. Van Voorst. 1851.'

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